

Sub. 162

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As used throughout the specification and the appended claims, the term "children's knock down furniture" is intended to mean childrens furniture which has a great deal of modularity and ability to be easily assembled, disassembled, reconfigured, and reassembled to change from one furniture unit to another by the simple rearrangement of the components which make up a given unit, by changing the manner in which said components are placed in juxtaposition to one another.

Also included within the definition of "knock down" furniture is the ability, to add on additional components such as "legs" to change the vertical dimensions of the particular unit to which said legs or vertical extensions are attached, handles, which, when attached, can be used for providing leverage in moving the particular unit to which they are attached, and snap-on wheels as means of locomotion.

Still another aspect of the definition of children's "knock down" furniture is the differential shapes (flat, and curved or bevelled) associated with the top and bottom of the front and rear components which allow for the changing of the function of the assembled or reassembled unit when the top and bottom of the components of the unit are flip-flopped.

For instance, when the bottom of the front and rear components is flat, there is provided a stable unit configuration which does not sway backward and forward.

This type of unit is suitable for a bassinet, a changing table, a bench, and any furniture unit which requires a stable configuration.

When the unit is configured with the curved or bevelled side of the front and rear components in the downward orientation, the unit is suitable for a cradle, or a rocking chair or any type of unit which is designed to provide a rocking motion or to sway back and forth.

The term "detachable means of locomtion" is intended to refer to a snap-on wheel assembly which can be easily attached to the bottom of the front and rear components when said components are in the configuration wherein the flat side of the front and rear components are oriented in the down position.

Additionally, the front and rear components may be scaled down in size, and attached in juxtaposition to one another such that when they are attached to a detachable means of locomotion, they provide an ideal size for a stroller.

Additionally, the scaled down components may be provided in multiple sets so as to allow for multiple stroller configurations in a side by side or front and back multiple stroller configuration.

The phrase "use of said article of manufacture in a local, intended sphere of use" is intended to refer to the ability of the invention to be converted to a stroller-type unit for the transportation of a child in a local sphere such as the home, the supermarket, the park, or some other local instrumentality. It is noted that the phrase "use of said article of manufacture in a local, intended sphere of use", is not intended to be limited to the original "local sphere of use", in which the unit was situated.

This term is read broadly enough to encompass a sphere of use in which the unit ultimately is utilized on a temporary or permanent basis.

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For example, the unit might be purchased, and utilized in location A. Any utilization of the unit in a sphere of use which is local to location A would be a local sphere of use.

The unit is transported to location B which is a city somewhat distant, and is assembled for use as a means of transportation of the child.

The use of the unit in spheres of use of location B would fit within the definition of local spheres of use.

The phrase "means of transport of said article of manufacture in its dissembled state to different places for reassembly and use in a remote sphere of use, said means of transport being adaptable, upon the attachment of means of elevation, to be provided with the ability to be utilized as a table"; is intended to refer to a carrying case which can be utilized to transport the entire set of components in their broken down dissassembled condition from one place to another, after which the unit can be reassembled for use in the new location.

The carrying case can be adaptable to be fitted with means of locomotion, in particular, wheels, so that it can be easily transported by the alleviation of the weight of carrying.

Said carrying case is also provided with fittings to allow the attachment of verticle extensions or "legs" so that once it has been utilized to transport the unassembled or disassembled unit, the elevation of the carrying case by the attachment of the "legs" make it suitable for use as a table.

The term "means of connection of front component to rear component" refers to but is not limited to, metal threaded rods which fit into holes in the front and rear components, and slide through slots which extend lengthwise into the side and bottom components in order to connect the front and rear components to said side and bottom components.

Said metal threaded rods are held in place at the front and rear components by knobs which are provided with receiving threads which can easliy be screwed into place without the need for tools. Said knobs which hold the metal threaded rods in place are an integral part of the afore-mentioned connection means, and are intended to fit squarely within that definition.

It can readily be appreciated that the metal threaded rod and metal threaded receiving knob methodology of connection can facilitate the ability of the side components to quickly and easily swivel up or down to arrive at the desired configuration.

For example, side components, 2, can be swiveled upward or downward, or completely detached and re-attached in a different position to double as various types of components to arrive at a specific configuration.

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Specifically, side component, 2, which is situated at the front position of bottom component, 3, and is shown in its flipped-down position in figure 10, can be flipped upwardly and attached at holes, outer side holes, 5, to arrive at the bassinet configuration of Figure 1. Thus the side component, 2, which is situated at the front and bottom of the bench unit, also doubles as, and is shown as flipped-up, front component, 2, in the bassinet configuration shown in figure 1.

Also included within the definition of the connection means is any means of connection of front to rear component which provides for the facilitation of the rearrangement of the various components in relationship to one another which allows for the aforesaid modularity.

For example, while the threaded rod means of connection which extends the entire length of the side and bottom crosswise components is the preferred embodiment because of the inherent strength of this configuration, other means of connection which do not extend the entire length of the component are also within the definition of the invention.

Specifically, a knob containing threads which can be disposed within receiving threads which are seated within the first inch or so of a groove in the side components, when tightly connected, can also serve as a suitable connection means.

The key feature of the connection means is its ability to facilitate the rotatable juxtaposability of each of the components in relationship to one another which allows for the rapid and efficient conversion of one unit to another.

The various components of the invention may be constructed of a multiplicity of materials which include but are not limited to various types of woods and substances which fall into the general definition of plastics and are suitable for use in injection molding, blow molding, extrusion molding and the like.

For example, suitable plastics for construction of the units, are comprised of materials such as polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride and the like.

In an embodiment which utilizes plastic, but is designed to capture a more up-scale market, a plastic having a wood veneer finish may be utilized as the finishing material.

The article of manufacture of the disclosed invention can be further understood and illustrated by reference to the following preferred embodiments.